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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/760,193

01/21/2004

Kia Silverbrook

WAL14US

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24011

7590

09/28/2006

SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, NSW 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

COLILLA, DANIEL JAMES

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,193

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel J. Colilla

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,9-11 and 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,5-8 and 12-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The indicated allowability of claims 1-18 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Kawamura et al. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.
2. Claims 2-3, 5-8 and 12-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and for the below mentioned informalities; but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 2-3 and 5-8 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the step of introducing the two rollers into a pair of resilient bias devices that holds the rollers in proximity.

Claim 12 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the step of using resilient clips which engage the case halves and hold them in a closed position.

Claims 13-14 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the step of bringing the rollers into proximity and biased against one another before the case is closed.

Terminal Disclaimer

4. The terminal disclaimers filed on 7/6/06 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration dates of U.S. Patent No. 6,944,970, U.S. Patent No. 6,920,704 and U.S. Application No.'s 10/760257, 10/760251, 10/760240, 10/760226, 10/760224, 10/760269, 10/760266, 10/760260, 10/760241, 10/760230, 10/760215 and 10/760214 have been reviewed and are accepted. The terminal disclaimers have been recorded.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1-18 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 1, the second to last line, "the web" has no antecedent basis in the claims. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1, 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirahata et al. (US 6,341,548) in view of Kawamura et al. JP (11-198471).

With respect to claim 1, Hirahata et al. discloses a method of supplying a media web 2 wound on a core 5 (see Figure 4 of Hirahata et al.) to a wallpaper printer (printhead 13) but is

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silent on the steps of opening a reusable case, placing into the case a core with a supply roll, supporting the core and leading a free edge of the roll between a pair of rollers. However, Kawamura et al. discloses a method of supplying a media web to a printer including the steps of opening a reusable case 20 and placing a supply of roll of blank paper in the case 20. This is mentioned in the first sentence of the Solution portion of the abstract which states that, "Roll sheets 22, 23 are loaded to a printer while being contained in dedicated cassettes 20,21."

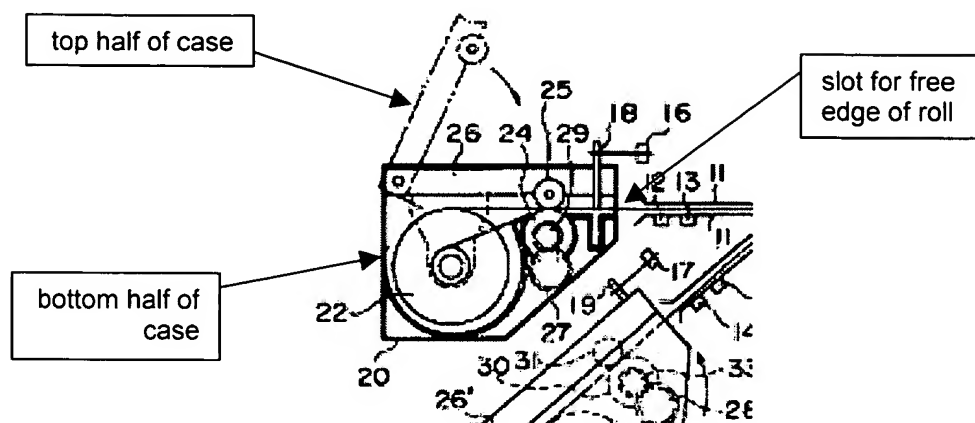
Opening the reusable case 20 is inherent in the step of placing blank paper in the case 20. While it appears that Kawamura et al. shows a core with the roll paper in Figure 1, it is not explicitly recited. However, as mentioned above, Hirahata et al. discloses a roll paper 2 with a core 5.

Kawamura et al. additionally teaches the step of supporting the roll paper for rotation within the case 20 as shown in Figure 1 of Kawamura et al. Furthermore, in paragraph [0011] Kawamura et al. teaches leading a free edge of the roll between a pair of rollers 24 and 25 past an edge of the open case as shown in Figure 1 of Kawamura et al. Figure 1 of Kawamura et al. also shows that the rollers 24 and 25 are located within the case 20 on either side of the web and as mentioned in the above quotation of Kawamura et al. the roll sheet 22 being contained in cassette 20 is loaded into the printer. The case must inherently be closed in order for the printer to function correctly. It would have been obvious to combine the teaching of Kawamura et al. with the method of supplying wallpaper to a printer as disclosed by Hirahata et al. for the advantage of having a backup roll of paper ready to be printed when the first roll runs out.

With respect to claim 11, Kawamura et al. teaches a that the case 20 has two halves which are hinged together and define when close, a slot which extends between the halves

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through which the free edge of the roll exits the case 20 as shown below in the Figure taken from Figure 1 of Kawamura et al.:



With respect to claim 17, Kawamura et al. teaches reusing case 20 by replacing the used roll 22 with a new roll 22 as mentioned at the end of paragraph [0014]. The method of loading a roll was described above with respect to claim 1. Also as mentioned above with respect to claim 1, using a core as disclosed by Hirahata et al. used would have been obvious.

8. Claims 4 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirahata et al. (US 6,341,548) in view of Kawamura et al. JP (11-198471), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Nagel et al. (US 5,362,008).

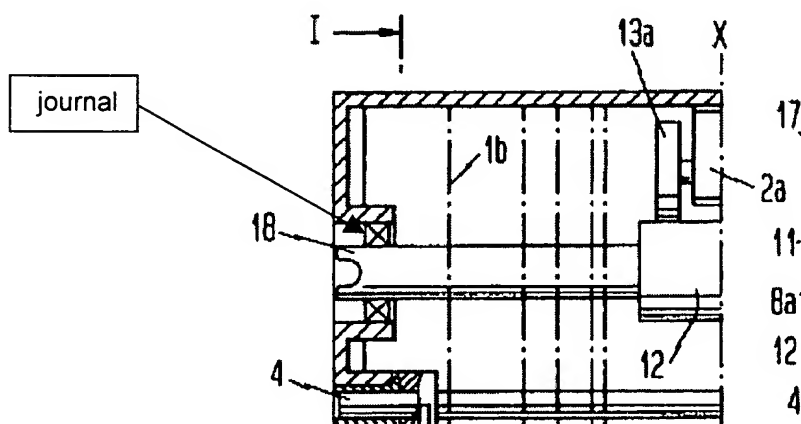
With respect to claim 4, Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. discloses the claimed method of supplying a media web except that Kawamura et al. is silent on whether there is a coupling located in an opening of the case. Kawamura et al. does disclose a driven roller 24. Nagel et al. teaches a media web case including a pair of rollers; one roller 12 of which is a driven roller. At the end of driven roller 12 is a coupling 18 located in an opening of the case 1

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as shown in Figure 2 of Nagel et al. An external spindle could be allowed to access this coupling when the case 1 is closed. It would have been obvious to combine the teaching of Nagel et al. with the method of supplying a media web disclosed by Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. for the advantage of a convenient way of supplying a mechanical drive to the rollers in the case.

With respect to claim 16, Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. discloses the claimed method of supplying a media web except that Kawamura et al. is silent on whether there is a journal in the case 20. Kawamura et al. teaches a case 20 with two halves as shown in Figure 1 of Kawamura et al. Nagel et al. also teaches a case with two halves 20a and 21 as shown in Figure 5 of Nagel et al. Nagel et al. further teaches a journal in one of the case halves as shown below in the Figure taken from Figure 4 of Nagel et al.:

Fig. 2



It would have been obvious to combine the teaching of Nagel et al. with the method disclosed by Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. for the advantage of providing a low friction turning connection between the shaft of the roller supported in the case and the case.

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9. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirahata et al. (US 6,341,548) in view of Kawamura et al. JP (11-198471), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Shiba (JP 10-291706).

Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. discloses the claimed method of supplying a media web except for the step of lifting the case by an integral handle. However, Shiba discloses a handle 4 located at one end as shown in Figure 3 of Shiba. It would have been obvious to combine the teaching of Shiba with the method disclosed by Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. for the advantage of providing a convenient location to grip the cartridge while inserting and removing from a machine that uses the cartridge.

10. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirahata et al. (US 6,341,548) in view of Kawamura et al. JP (11-198471) and Shiba (JP 10-291706), as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Inana et al. (US 2001/0006202).

Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. discloses the claimed method of supplying a media web except for the step of using a folding handle located on a top surface of the case. However, Inana et al. teaches a media case including a folding handle 8 on the top surface of the case. Clearly the handle 8 is included to be used by lifting the media case. It would have been obvious to combine the teaching of Inana et al. with the method disclosed by Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. for the advantage of a convenient gripping location for easily carrying the media case that can also fold down to reduce the amount of space taken up by the case.

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11. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirahata et al. (US 6,341,548) in view of Kawamura et al. JP (11-198471) and Prater et al. (US 5,551,564).

Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. discloses the claimed method of supplying a media web except for the step of forming the two case halves from a single moulding with an integral hinge. However, Prater et al. teaches forming a web supplying case by vacuum molding from a single sheet of plastic; the case being formed from two halves connected by an integral hinge (Prater et al., col. 1, line 52-59; Figure 1). The case further includes a slot 40 for the free end of the media to exit. It would have been obvious to combine the teaching of Prater et al. with the method of supplying a web disclosed by Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. for the advantage of an inexpensive and quick method for forming the media case.

12. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirahata et al. (US 6,341,548) in view of Kawamura et al. JP (11-198471), as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of Fushimi (JP 2000-302299).

Hirahata et al. in view of Kawamura et al. discloses the claimed method of supplying a media web except for the roll and the new roll being different blank media types. However, Fushimi teaches a roll media case for holding a media roll 5 which can be exchanged for a different sized roll using retainers 9a-9c of different widths. It would have been obvious to replace a roll with a new type of roll when the user wanted to change formats of the printed product to a new width; thus achieving a greater versatility for the printing mechanism 1.

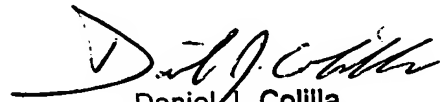
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13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Colilla whose telephone number is 571-272-2157. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached at 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

September 15, 2006


Daniel J. Colilla
Primary Examiner
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